



## Palmetto State Clean Fuels Coalition Newsletter

### What's New and What's News in Clean Fuels? Volume 3 – Spring 2003

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#### **Final Program Plan Ready for Submittal:**

Headquarters of the Department of Energy, Clean Cities Program returned comments for the Palmetto State Clean Fuels Coalition Program Plan. Overall the plan was well received by Headquarters. A request was made for an update fleet survey for both government and private fleets. Most of you have by now not only seen the request but also responded, as most of the data has now been collected. At the same time, minor changes in the formatting were also taking place such as a new stakeholder database and updated timeline. National Clean Cities indicated in a letter accompanying the comments that once these changes were made, they would work with the Coalition on a designation ceremony. The final program plan will be submitted by the end of the month. Copies of the Final Program Plan submitted to Headquarters are available electronically by contacting LeAnn Herren at [herren@environ.sc.edu](mailto:herren@environ.sc.edu).

#### **Stakeholder Meeting Scheduled:**

The Palmetto State Clean Fuels Coalition will be meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3:30. The meeting will be held at the offices of the Catawba Council of Governments in Rock Hill. At this stakeholder session, along with standard Coalition business, we will begin working on the bylaws that will go into effect upon designation of the Coalition by National Clean Cities. Also at the time of designation, we will be electing a steering committee to oversee the Coalition. Anyone who might be interested in running for a position on this committee please come and “get your name in the hat”. For directions to the meeting, contact Wendy Bell at 803/-327-9041 or [wbell@catawbacog.org](mailto:wbell@catawbacog.org).

#### **Advancing the Choice Event at USC:**

This Springs Advancing the Choice Event was held in conjunction with the University of South Carolina Annual Earth Day Celebration on the Columbia campus. Students at USC were introduced to the issue of clean air and the impacts their driving habits can have on the environment in which they live. A variety of alternative fuel vehicles were on display for students and faculty to climb in, on, under and around including hybrids, electric, CNG and E-85. Displays were set up to encourage students to consider alternatives to single vehicle

usage such as mass transit and bicycle paths. The celebration was a success with students and faculty leaving more about their part in improving air quality and using alternative fuels. For more information or to receive digital pictures of the Advancing the Choice Event, contact LeAnn Herren at [herren@environ.sc.edu](mailto:herren@environ.sc.edu).

#### **Aiken County Joins Coalition:**

At the request of stakeholders and workgroups, an invitation has been extended to Aiken County to join existing eight counties in the Palmetto State Clean Fuels Coalition. Sharing a border with current stakeholder Lexington County, the addition of Aiken County will complete the corridor across South Carolina from North Carolina to Georgia. Two of our existing stakeholders, U.S. Postal Service and United Energy Distributors, already operate in Aiken County. Our new stakeholders will include Aiken County Transit Authority, Westinghouse and the Department of energy at the Savannah River Site. A straw poll of the stakeholders show unanimous support for the addition, with an official vote of support held at the June 4<sup>th</sup> stakeholder meeting.

#### **Concurrent Resolution Introduced:**

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has introduced a Concurrent Resolution to the South Carolina Legislature this session. The resolution acknowledges the implementation of the South Carolina Early Action Plan, while recognizing the dangers to public health and the environment from ground level ozone. The resolution calls for SCDHEC to establish and implement proactive and innovative approaches to reduce emissions of ozone forming air pollutants. One of the approaches mentioned will be to create and support voluntary workgroups of citizens, industries and all government entities to promote emissions reductions. As one of the voluntary workgroups that SCDHEC supports as a stakeholder, the Coalition congratulates them in their efforts to improve air quality in South Carolina. Contact Michael Monroe for more information at 803/898-3261 or [monroemc@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:monroemc@dhec.sc.gov).

#### **EAP First Stage Due:**

The first stage of the South Carolina Early Action Plan requirements is coming due this month. The 45 counties who signed the EAP Compact must submit strategies to be implemented that will reduce air emission and the production ozone forming air pollutants to SCDHEC by May 28<sup>th</sup>. SCDHEC will be compiling the options into a report that will be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency by June 16, 2003. During their meeting with each county to help develop strategies, SCDHEC has been encouraging the counties to consider taking advantage of the emissions reductions available through the use of alternative fuels. Counties from outside our Coalition area have started calling to learn more about alternative fuels and the some of the programs that you the stakeholders have in place.

#### **B20 Available to State Agencies:**

State of South Carolina agencies will have B-20 biodiesel available at 18 South Carolina Department of Transportation sites this summer. The first load has already been delivered. The State is using the B-20 with the goal of producing 100 AFV credits for the Energy Policy Act. This is a great opportunity for agencies who may not have tried an alternative fuel to see the advantages. Stakeholders encourage drivers at your agencies to fill-up with the B-20

instead of regular diesel and see for themselves what a great product it is! For more information on using B20 and the locations of the B-20 sites nearest you, contact Jeff McCormack of State Fleet Management at 803/737-1504 or [JmcCormack@ogs.state.sc.us](mailto:JmcCormack@ogs.state.sc.us).

**Ozone Boundary Input Sought:**

The Environmental Protection Agency has requested recommendations from South Carolina on what boundaries should be for any area in the State that is not meeting, or is impacting another area's ability to meet, the 8-hour ozone standard based on data from 2000-2002. While 45 counties have signed the EAP Compact, EPA is still required to make a non-attainment designation for any area whose air quality does not meet the 8-hour ozone standard. For areas within the EAP Compact, which meet all the milestones within the compact, EPA will defer the effective date of the non-attainment designation and the related penalties. SCDHEC will be hosting a meeting on Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the Peoples Auditorium (2600 Bull Street, Columbia) for the public to receive more information, ask questions and make comments on various boundary proposals. Copies of the map, produced for discussion purposes only at this point, can be found on the SCDHEC website at [www.scdhec.net/baq/](http://www.scdhec.net/baq/)